

## **2015 Lobbyist Registration Audit of Michael Vinson**

### **FINDING(S)**

Mr. Michael Vinson failed to timely register as a lobbyist for his employer (See Registrations section).

### **EMPLOYER(S)**

- TN Municipal Electric Power Assn

### **REGISTRATION(S)**

Mr. Vinson registered as a lobbyist for one employer during 2015. Based on the audit documentation, Mr. Vinson was an employee of TN Municipal Electric Power Assn. with duties that included lobbying during 2015. He was also registered as their lobbyist in 2014, thus the lobbyist had continuing lobbying relationship with his employer. Therefore, the lobbyist should have registered within 7 days of the commencement of the year which is January 8, 2015. Mr. Vinson did not register until February 2, 2015, 25 days late. Based on review of the Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance's lobbyist records, Mr. Vinson paid all registration fees.

### **LOBBYING AGREEMENT(S)**

Based on a review of the audit documentation provided by Mr. Vinson, he was a direct employee of the employer. The employer had no employment contract with the lobbyist employee. However, per statements of the lobbyist and review of his job description, it appears the terms of employment were within the statutes for lobbying activities including having no terms for contingency payments based on lobbying success.

### **FAMILY OR BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS WITH PUBLIC OFFICIALS**

Mr. Vinson reported he had no business or familial relationships with persons who were officials in the legislative branch or officials in the executive branch.

### **TRAINING**

Based on review of the Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance's lobbyist records, Mr. Vinson completed his required lobbyist training for the 2015 registration year and paid all training fees.